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**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

Applicant: Garcia-Rodenas et al.
Intl. Appl. No.: PCT/EP04/006736
Intl. Filing Date: 22 June 2004
Title: NUTRITIONAL FORMULA FOR OPTIMAL GUT BARRIER
FUNCTION
Docket No.: 112701-694

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371 as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 35 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 38 of this paper.